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CLAIMS

1. Use of a peptide comprising a chain of 7 to 17 contiguous amino acids derived from the region of human TNF- α from Ser¹⁰⁰ to Glu¹¹⁶ or from the region of mouse TNF- α from Ser⁹⁹ to Glu¹¹⁵ for the manufacture of a medicament for treating oedema.
2. Use of a peptide according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 11 to 16 contiguous amino acids.
3. Use of a peptide according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 13 to 15 contiguous amino acids.
4. Use of a peptide according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 14 contiguous amino acids.
5. Use of a peptide according to claim 4, wherein said chain of 14 contiguous amino acids are chosen from the group consisting of the contiguous amino acid sequences QRETPEGAEAKPWY and PKDTPEGAEELKPWY.
6. Use of a peptide according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein said peptide is circularized.
7. Use of a peptide according to claim 6, wherein said peptide is circularized by replacing the NH₂- and COOH-terminal amino acids by cysteine so that a disulfide bridge is formed between the latter cysteines.
8. Use of a peptide according to claim 7, wherein said circularized peptides are chosen from the group consisting of the circularized peptides CGQRETPEGAEAKPWYC and CGPKDTPEGAEELKPWYC.
9. Use of a peptide according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein said oedema is pulmonary oedema.
10. A pharmaceutical composition for treating oedema comprising a peptide according to any of claims 1 to 9.